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Superintendent of Schools

Board of Trustees

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The Honorable Robert O'Farrell
Presiding Judge of the Superior Court
Monterey County
P.O. Box 1819
Salinas, CA 93902

Subject: Response to Grand Jury Report on School Board Training

Attached is the Alisal Union School District response to the findings and recommendations in the 2001 Monterey County Grand Jury Final Report dated January 2, 2002. This response will be presented to the Board for approval at its April 17 meeting. A copy of the Board approval will be provided after that meeting.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Alfonso Anaya", is written over a printed name label.

Dr Alfonso Anaya

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c: Dr. Barry Schimmel
Thad Evans

Attachment: 1

AUSD Response to Grand Jury Report

GRAND JURY FINAL REPORT TITLED SCHOOL BOARD TRAINING

Response to **FINDINGS** by Alisal Union School District Board of Trustees

Finding

1. Column 1. Finding #1. (Not all school boards in Monterey County budget for or take advantage of available school board training).

Column 2. Neither checked.

Column 3. (Explanation) The AUSD School Board has no way of independently determining whether or not all school boards in Monterey County budget or take advantage of available school board training. The AUSD does provide training for its school board members. Alisal Board members participate in training offered by the Monterey County Office of Education. The AUSD board is a member of the California School Boards Association. AUSD Board members attend its meetings and conferences, and the board hires CSBA consultants for on-site training (the latest was March 13, 2002, when a CSBA consultant provided on-site training on governance matters).

2. Column 1. Finding #2. School boards have ultimate responsibility for school district resources and personnel, including the superintendent.

Column 2. The respondent agrees with the findings.

AUSD Response to Grand Jury Report

GRAND JURY FINAL REPORT TITLED SCHOOL BOARD TRAINING

Response to **RECOMMENDATIONS** by Alisal Union School District Board of Trustees

Recommendation

1. Column 1. Recommendation #1. (Provide a budget for school board training.)

Column 2. This recommendation has been implemented.

Column 3. (Explanation). The table below shows the amount the Alisal Union School District Board of Trustees spent in recent years for Travel and conferences and for Dues and Memberships.

	FY 97/98	FY 98/99	FY 99/00	FY 00/01	FY 01/02
Travel & Conferences	\$6,643	\$5,439	\$6,595	\$18,719	\$4,042
Dues & Memberships	\$5,393	\$5,653	\$5,572	\$9,336	\$5,791

The significant increase in FY 2000/01 expenditures was for Strategic Planning to develop guidelines to guide the district through the next five years. It included setting strategies and goals and budgeting to those goals and standards. Memberships in organizations provide educational and informative newsletters and magazines. FY 2001/02 figures are year-to-date as of April 2, 2002.

2. Column 1. Recommendation #2. (Provide access to training, at a minimum, in specified areas.)

Column 2. This recommendation has been implemented.

Column 3. (Explanation). The district belongs to the California School Boards Association which provides such training. For example, on March 13, 2002, the board hired a CSBA consultants for on-site training on governance matters.

3. Column 1. Recommendation #3. (Work with Monterey County Office of Education to develop school board training).

Column 2. Requires further analysis.

Column 3. The Alisal Union School District Board of Trustees concurs with this recommendation but believes that the MCOE must take the lead. However, the Board will direct the Superintendent to bring this subject up at the next monthly Superintendents' Council.

AUSD Response to Grand Jury Report

4. Column 1. Attend as many California School Board Association workshops as determined necessary.

Column 2. This recommendation has been implemented.

Column 3. At least three board member attend the CSBA Conference yearly and reports to the rest of the board on the workshops at the Conference. This year four attended the conference. The board also belongs to the California Latino School Boards Association. At least two board members attend its annual conference each year.